



ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

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Memorandum

TO: Gary Shimun, Town Administrator

FROM: Phillip R. Holste, CFM, Program Manager
Michael Mungal, CFM, Engineer II

THROUGH: Ken Cohen, Assistant Town Administrator

SUBJECT: Status of Broward County Local Mitigation Strategy: Town of Davie

DATE: November 29, 2006

Resolution 98-278, September 2, 1998, authorized the Town's participation in the development of Broward County's local mitigation strategy (LMS). Resolution 2002-275 supported the above local mitigation strategy plan that was completed in 2000 by Broward County. Subsequently, Resolution 2004-019 adopted the local mitigation strategy plan, updated in 2002. Broward County produces an annual progress report for this plan. This memo is the Town's annual progress plan specific to its participation and actions in the implementation of the plan's goals. The memo was prepared by Town staff and was reviewed, revised, and approved by Administration.

For credit under the Community Rating System, this memo must be distributed to the media and available to the public. It is being sent to the media that cover the Town of Davie. Copies of this report and of the Broward County Local Mitigation Strategy are available for review at Town Hall, 6591 Orange Drive and the Davie/Cooper City Library, 4600 SW 82 Avenue. A notice of its availability is posted on the Town's website under press releases and there is a section devoted to local flood hazards.

I. Background

The original Broward County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS thereafter) was drafted by the Broward County Mitigation Task Force and Broward County Emergency Coordinating Council in 1999-2000. The strategy focused on all potential hazards including those related to wind and flood. The plan recommended four goals to reduce and prevent hazards, including flooding.

The plan was updated in 2002 and identified an additional goal which focused on increasing awareness of available funding sources for mitigation. The Town has been a member of the Mitigation Task Force since its inception and attends its quarterly meetings. This document reviews those goals listed in Appendix A of the LMS. The goal's outcome will be analyzed using the defined action items to determine the Town's overall implementation and successes. The Town continually evaluates these goals and actions and makes necessary modifications as deemed necessary.

II. Review of Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: To increase the business, residential and public community's awareness of hazard mitigation.

a. Disseminate flood information through Town publications and other resources

Status: Ongoing. The Town publishes two annual flood information outreach documents. The first document is included as a 2-page article in the Town magazine, the Davie Update, during its spring edition. The second document, mailed during the summer, is a flood information brochure that covers a wide range of floodplain management subjects. This brochure is geared towards residents living in a special flood hazard area. The Town, however, mails this document to the entire community.

The Town's website and Town-run television are two sources through which residences receive flood information on a regular basis throughout the year. The website contains a separate webpage for the "Local Flood Hazard" which contains all information that is sent out yearly to residents. The Town has also been proactive in getting short articles published in community newspapers relating to its flood protection efforts.

Staff recommends that the Town continue the above efforts and consider creating a broader public information strategy in the near future.

b. Develop a clearinghouse to disseminate accurate and consistent information relating to disaster mitigation.

Status: The Town's Development Services Department serves as the central information source for disseminating disaster mitigation information. The Town's grant division serves as the clearinghouse for all grants including those related to disaster mitigation. Staff is available to assist residents in completing mitigation grant applications.

Goal 2: To ensure adequate training opportunities to support hazard mitigation and floodplain management.

a. Provide training opportunities to staff members involved in floodplain management.

Status: Ongoing. In the past year, the Town has added 2 certified floodplain managers (CFM) to its staff. Furthermore, employees have attended training classes including "Managing development in the floodplain" and "Community Rating System." Town employees are also members of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM). Furthermore, numerous staff members attended hazard mitigation courses during the South Florida Hurricane Conference.

The Town also conducts internal training of public works staff on the importance of proper maintenance, the cleaning of catch basins and removing materials to prevent blockages.

Goal 3: To facilitate measures to mitigate hazards.

a. Completion of Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Implementation Grant

Status: In 1999, Hurricane Irene caused extensive flooding in the Town. In 2000, the Town, in cooperation with the Central Broward Water Control District, conducted a flood study that identified multiple areas that needed drainage improvements. In 2002, the Town was awarded a Florida Department of Environmental Protection Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Implementation Grant. This grant was awarded to undertake drainage improvements in the study areas. The Town has completed the projects outlined for the grant.

b. Provide site specific information and assistance to inquirers, including map information, flood protection advice, and information of selecting and dealing with contractors.

Status: This activity is ongoing. In 2005, there were approximately 95 flood-related inquirers handled. 70% of these inquirers were related to flood information i.e. FIRM (Flood Insurance Rate Map) requests, LOMA (Letter of Map Amendment)/LOMR (Letter of Map Revision), etc. The remaining inquirers were site specific issues that were handled on a case by case basis by the Engineering division.

c. Implement small scale projects to correct localized flood problems

Status: This action item is ongoing.

The Town has implemented the following small scale projects in the past year:

- Regrading of front swale area throughout Town to improve stormwater conveyance system and prevent flooding
- Inspected and cleaned drainage structures throughout Town.
- Completed drainage improvements in Playland Village
- Completed drainage improvements in Driftwood Estates

Goal 4: To facilitate planning initiatives to ensure effective hazard mitigation (programs and policies).

a. Monitor the implementation of the local mitigation strategy and prepare a written progress report to the Town Council yearly.

Status: This document represents the Town's update to the local mitigation strategy.

b. Update the Broward County mitigation project list to represent new local initiatives.

Status: The Town submits projects to the local mitigation task force for inclusion on the county-wide mitigation list. These sites are scored to determine their priority during grant cycles. The Davie Farm Park is the latest example of a mitigation project that has been added to the list and successfully funded.

c. Maintain the Town's Community Rating System (CRS) classification.

Status: The Town had a regular cycle verification visit in August 2003. Based upon this visit, the Town lowered its CRS rating from 9 to 8. In October 2005, the Town lowered its CRS rating from 8 to 7. In October 2005, the Town submitted its documentation for its annual recertification report. The Town's report was accepted.

d. Ensure the Town's Evaluation and Appraisal report (EAR) and capital improvements program evaluate the Town's drainage system and makes improvements as necessary.

Status: The 2005 capital improvement budget allocated \$300,000 towards drainage improvements. Drainage improvements were undertaken in the Driftwood Estates and Playland Village developments. The 2006 budget allocated \$150,000 towards drainage improvements in the Arrowhead development. The Town adopted the EAR on April 19, 2006 through R2006-122 . The EAR evaluated the current status of the drainage system. The plan states that the Town's drainage system provides adequate protection from flooding.

e. Continue to participate in flood management programs and disseminate information and recommendations to the Town Council, staff, and residents.

Status: Town Administration and Engineering have kept the Council up to date on the Town's participation in the CRS and its compliances with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).

f. Expansion of Town's open space and parks system

Status: In September 2005, Town residents approved a \$25 million dollar Open Space Bond. The bond's goals included protecting the quality of water bodies and the preservation of natural areas. The funds will be used to purchase passive recreational area that will have limited impervious surfaces. At this time, the Town has purchased 54 acres of open space using these bond funds.

g. Create a Town floodplain management plan.

Status: The Broward County Local Mitigation Strategy currently serves as the Town's floodplain management plan. The Town would benefit from pursuing the creation of a floodplain management plan specific to its community.

Goal 5: To increase awareness of available funding sources for mitigation.

a. Increase awareness of mitigation funding sources, especially repetitive loss properties

Status: Through its annual outreach to repetitive loss properties, the Town provides information on the various flood mitigation grant programs. The Town has conducted site visits to residents interested in mitigation grants and has provided site specific recommendations. During site visits, the Town provides residents information on potential mitigation opportunities for their properties. In the future, the Town might want to consider contacting repetitive loss properties to discuss their site specific issues and propose mitigation opportunities.

III. Action items that have not been completed.

Of the 14 action items reviewed, 12 items are underway (Goal 1, Goal 2, Goal 3b and c, Goal 4a-f, and Goal 5) and 1 item (3a) has been completed. The remaining action item that has not been completed is 4g: Town-initiated floodplain management plan. This project has not yet started. Over the past few years, the Town has focused upon completing the 2000 flood study recommendations. Additionally, the Town has strived to ensure that the canal system is designed correctly to handle our max design peak flow. With the completion of these projects, the Town is ready to begin development of its floodplain management plan.

Overall, 13 out of 14 action are completed or underway equating to 93% implementation rate.

IV. Recommendations

1. Town staff should continue implementing the goals of the LMS.
2. The Town should create a flood protection committee or appoint an existing committee with this role.
3. The Town should develop floodplain management plan specific to itself.
4. The Town should continue participating in the Broward County Mitigation Task Force and create a committee to oversee floodplain management.
5. Update the Town website to include additional flood protection information, property owners' booklet, the floodplain mailout, and the progress report.
6. The Town should expand its public information campaign to include realtors and surveyors.

7. The Town should obtain grant funds to conduct further flood studies and drainage improvement projects.